

New-York



NEW-YORK, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 1871.

VOL. XXX.—No. 9,313.

THE ALABAMA CLAIMS.

A JOINT HIGH COMMISSION TO SETTLE THE QUESTION.

THE FISHERY TROUBLES ALSO TO BE CONSIDERED—A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT ON THE SUBJECT—NAMES OF THE UNITED STATES COMMISSIONERS—THEIR CONFIRMATION STILL PENDING IN THE SENATE.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Feb. 9, 1871.

The President's Message, and the correspondence and nominations accompanying it, sent to the Senate to-day, took that body and the public somewhat by surprise, and our relations with Great Britain are almost the only topics of conversation here-to-night. The Senate immediately after receiving the Message went into Executive session to consider it, and to set upon the nominations for Commissioners. There was a rambling debate, three hours long, during which no personal objection was made to the Commissioners appointed—Secretary Fish, Minister Schenck, ex-Attorney-General Hear, Judge Nelson, and Senator Williams.

The constitutional right of the President to appoint such a Commission, without special power being delegated to him by act or resolution of Congress, was questioned. Attention was also called to the fact that this is a departure from the usual mode of making treaties, that power being, by the Constitution, given to the President and Senate alone. Treaties have heretofore been negotiated by our Ministers, or by special commissioners, and by them transmitted to the President, who sends them to the Senate for ratification. The proposition now is for this High Commission to negotiate the treaty, and report it to the Senate, no provision being made for its passage through the President's hands.

But the most serious objection to the proposition of the Message made in the Senate to-day is that it is too general in its terms. Senators who spoke on this subject were desirous that any treaty negotiated shall cover the Alabama and Fishery questions, but are unwilling that the settlement of those shall be incurred with the claims of British subjects for damages during the Fenian raids of 1865 and 1870, or losses incurred on account of investment in Confederate bonds. It is said that, by the terms of the proposition submitted, these and any other subjects of difference between the two nations might be made matters of consideration.

Mr. Trumbull moved to postpone the whole matter for a week, but this was lost. Then it was moved to refer the nominations to the Foreign Relations Committee, and this also was voted down. As a single objection prevented a final vote on the nominations to-day, the matter went over till to-morrow, when the Senate will probably go into Executive session for its continued consideration. The general impression among Senators is that, had a vote been taken to-day, the Commissioners would have been confirmed.

Other points made in the debate were in relation to the pay of the U.S. Commissioners, as they all, except Mr. Hoar, now hold office, and it is not legal for any one to receive two salaries at the same time. Doubts were also expressed as to the legality of Senator Williams' appointment, as it is provided that no Senator shall be appointed to an office created during his term of office.

Approval of the steps thus far taken by the Executive is widely expressed here, to-night, by men of all parties, and there seems to be a general feeling of satisfaction that our troubles with Great Britain are apparently near a settlement. The President's selection of Commissioners also meets with general approval. The Commissioners appointed on the part of Great Britain are the Earl de Grey and Ripon, Sir John Rose, and Sir Edward Thornton.

Representatives of the North-Western States think that the settlement of our claims will involve the cession to the United States of the British country north-west of Lake Superior.

The third reception of Minister and Mrs. Thornton took place to-night and was attended by a brilliant company.—Judges of the Supreme Court, Senators, Representatives in Congress, and Foreign Ministers being among the guests. Mr. Thornton was congratulated by his friends on the prospect of a settlement of the questions between the United States and Great Britain.

ENGLISH MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION.

LONDON, Thursday, Feb. 9, 1871.

The Earl De Grey and Ripon goes to Washington at the head of a Commission to settle the Alabama Claims.

The British Government desired that the Commission should consist of only three members, but the Cabinet at Washington insisted on ten, and England yielded. The five Commissioners on the part of Great Britain have been appointed, and their names are as follows:

Sir Edward Thornton.
Prof. Montagu Berner.
Sir Edward Thornton.
Sir John A. Macdonald of Canada.
John Rose.

Secretary of the Commission, Lord Tenterden.
The Earl Du Grey sails for the United States to-morrow.

SIR JOHN ROSE IN CANADA.

OTTAWA, Ontario, Thursday, Feb. 9, 1871.

Sir John Rose is here on official business concerning the fisheries. He had an interview with the Privy Council to-day, and with the Minister of the Fisheries this afternoon. It is not certain whether he leaves for Washington to-night, or waits until next week.

THE OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

A PROPOSITION FROM EARL GRANVILLE FOR A COMMISSION ON THE FISHERY TROUBLES—THE PRESIDENT'S LETTERS THAT THE ALABAMA CLAIMS SHALL ALSO BE CONSIDERED—EARL GRANVILLE CONSENTS—WITH THE ADDITION THAT ALL CLAIMS ARISING OUT OF THE REBELLION SHALL BE PRESENTED.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—The President sent to the Senate to-day a brief message, inclosing the following correspondence:

Sir Edward Thornton to Mr. Fish.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16, 1871.

In compliance with instructions received from Earl Granville, I have the honor to state that Her Majesty's Government doth it of importance to the good relations, which they are ever anxious should subsist and be strengthened, between the United States and Great Britain, that a friendly and complete understanding should come to between the two Governments, as to the extent of the rights which belong to the citizens of the United States and Her Majesty's subjects respectively, with reference to the fisheries on the coasts of Her Majesty's possessions in North America; and as to any other questions between them which affect the relations of the United States toward these possessions. As the consideration of these matters would, however, involve investigations of a somewhat complicated nature, and as it is very desirable that they should be thoroughly examined, I am directed by Earl Granville to propose to the Government of the United States the appointment of a Joint High Commission, which shall be composed of members to be named by each Government. It shall hold its sessions at Washington, and shall treat of and discuss the mode of settling the different questions which have arisen out of the fisheries, as well as those which affect the relations of the United States toward Her Majesty's possessions in North America. I am confident that this proposal will be met by your Government in the same cordial spirit of friendship which has induced Her Majesty's Government to do it, and I cannot doubt that the result will not fail to contribute to the maintenance of the comity which, I am convinced, the Government of the United States, as well

as that of Her Majesty, has equally at heart. I have

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

SPEECH OF QUEEN VICTORIA.

HOPES FOR PEACE IN EUROPE—THE ALABAMA CLAIMS AND THE FISHERY TROUBLES TO BE SETTLED BY A SPECIAL COMMISSION—VOTING BY BALLOT RECOMMENDED.

LONDON, Thursday, Feb. 9, 1871.

The Queen opened the session of the Houses of Parliament to-day in person. The Lords and Commons mustered in full force, and there was a large attendance of spectators. The usual military and civic display was made. The weather was fine, and great crowds of people witnessed the procession. The following is the speech of the Queen:

LODGES AND GENTLEMEN: At an epoch of such moment to the future fortunes of Europe I am especially desirous to avail myself of your counsels.

The war which broke out in the month of July, between France and Germany, has raged, until within the last few days, with unremitting and likewise with unexampled force, and its ravages may be renewed, after a few days more, unless moderation and forbearance, previously over all impediments, shall sway the counsels of both the parties whose well-being is so fatally concerned.

At the time when you separated, I promised a constant attention to the subject of mutual obligations, and I undertook to use my best endeavors to prevent the enlargement of the area of the war, and to contribute, if opportunity should offer, to the restoration of an early and honorable peace.

In accordance with the first of these declarations, I have made over the right and strictly discharged the duty of neutrality. The epoch of the war has not been extended beyond the two countries originally engaged. Cherishing with care the cordiality of my relations with the belligerents, I have foreborne from what ever might have been construed as gratuitous or unwarranted interference between parties, neither of whom had shown a readiness to propose terms of accommodation such as to bear promise of acceptance by the other. I have been able, on more than one occasion, to contribute toward placing the representatives of the two contending countries in confidential communication; but until famine compelled the surrender of Paris, no further result had been obtained.

He thinks that the removal of the differences which arose during the rebellion in the United States, and which have existed since then, growing out of the acts committed by the several vessels, which have given rise to the claims generally known as the "Alabama Claims," will also be essential to the restoration of cordial and amicable relations between the two Governments. He fully recognises the friendly spirit which prompted the proposal. The President is, however, of the opinion that, without the adjustment of a class of questions not alluded to in your note, the proposed High Commission would fail to establish the permanent relations, and the sincere, substantial, and lasting friendship between the two Governments which, in common with Her Majesty's Government, he desires should prevail.

He thinks that the removal of the differences which arose during the rebellion in the United States, and which have existed since then, growing out of the acts committed by the several vessels, which have given rise to the claims generally known as the "Alabama Claims," will also be essential to the restoration of cordial and amicable relations between the two Governments. He fully recognises the friendly spirit which prompted the proposal. The President is, however, of the opinion that, without the adjustment of a class of questions not alluded to in your note, the proposed High Commission would fail to establish the permanent relations, and the sincere, substantial, and lasting friendship between the two Governments which, in common with Her Majesty's Government, he desires should prevail.

He thinks that the removal of the differences which arose during the rebellion in the United States, and which have existed since then, growing out of the acts committed by the several vessels, which have given rise to the claims generally known as the "Alabama Claims," will also be essential to the restoration of cordial and amicable relations between the two Governments. He fully recognises the friendly spirit which prompted the proposal. The President is, however, of the opinion that, without the adjustment of a class of questions not alluded to in your note, the proposed High Commission would fail to establish the permanent relations, and the sincere, substantial, and lasting friendship between the two Governments which, in common with Her Majesty's Government, he desires should prevail.

He thinks that the removal of the differences which arose during the rebellion in the United States, and which have existed since then, growing out of the acts committed by the several vessels, which have given rise to the claims generally known as the "Alabama Claims," will also be essential to the restoration of cordial and amicable relations between the two Governments. He fully recognises the friendly spirit which prompted the proposal. The President is, however, of the opinion that, without the adjustment of a class of questions not alluded to in your note, the proposed High Commission would fail to establish the permanent relations, and the sincere, substantial, and lasting friendship between the two Governments which, in common with Her Majesty's Government, he desires should prevail.

He thinks that the removal of the differences which arose during the rebellion in the United States, and which have existed since then, growing out of the acts committed by the several vessels, which have given rise to the claims generally known as the "Alabama Claims," will also be essential to the restoration of cordial and amicable relations between the two Governments. He fully recognises the friendly spirit which prompted the proposal. The President is, however, of the opinion that, without the adjustment of a class of questions not alluded to in your note, the proposed High Commission would fail to establish the permanent relations, and the sincere, substantial, and lasting friendship between the two Governments which, in common with Her Majesty's Government, he desires should prevail.

He thinks that the removal of the differences which arose during the rebellion in the United States, and which have existed since then, growing out of the acts committed by the several vessels, which have given rise to the claims generally known as the "Alabama Claims," will also be essential to the restoration of cordial and amicable relations between the two Governments. He fully recognises the friendly spirit which prompted the proposal. The President is, however, of the opinion that, without the adjustment of a class of questions not alluded to in your note, the proposed High Commission would fail to establish the permanent relations, and the sincere, substantial, and lasting friendship between the two Governments which, in common with Her Majesty's Government, he desires should prevail.

He thinks that the removal of the differences which arose during the rebellion in the United States, and which have existed since then, growing out of the acts committed by the several vessels, which have given rise to the claims generally known as the "Alabama Claims," will also be essential to the restoration of cordial and amicable relations between the two Governments. He fully recognises the friendly spirit which prompted the proposal. The President is, however, of the opinion that, without the adjustment of a class of questions not alluded to in your note, the proposed High Commission would fail to establish the permanent relations, and the sincere, substantial, and lasting friendship between the two Governments which, in common with Her Majesty's Government, he desires should prevail.

He thinks that the removal of the differences which arose during the rebellion in the United States, and which have existed since then, growing out of the acts committed by the several vessels, which have given rise to the claims generally known as the "Alabama Claims," will also be essential to the restoration of cordial and amicable relations between the two Governments. He fully recognises the friendly spirit which prompted the proposal. The President is, however, of the opinion that, without the adjustment of a class of questions not alluded to in your note, the proposed High Commission would fail to establish the permanent relations, and the sincere, substantial, and lasting friendship between the two Governments which, in common with Her Majesty's Government, he desires should prevail.

He thinks that the removal of the differences which arose during the rebellion in the United States, and which have existed since then, growing out of the acts committed by the several vessels, which have given rise to the claims generally known as the "Alabama Claims," will also be essential to the restoration of cordial and amicable relations between the two Governments. He fully recognises the friendly spirit which prompted the proposal. The President is, however, of the opinion that, without the adjustment of a class of questions not alluded to in your note, the proposed High Commission would fail to establish the permanent relations, and the sincere, substantial, and lasting friendship between the two Governments which, in common with Her Majesty's Government, he desires should prevail.

He thinks that the removal of the differences which arose during the rebellion in the United States, and which have existed since then, growing out of the acts committed by the several vessels, which have given rise to the claims generally known as the "Alabama Claims," will also be essential to the restoration of cordial and amicable relations between the two Governments. He fully recognises the friendly spirit which prompted the proposal. The President is, however, of the opinion that, without the adjustment of a class of questions not alluded to in your note, the proposed High Commission would fail to establish the permanent relations, and the sincere, substantial, and lasting friendship between the two Governments which, in common with Her Majesty's Government, he desires should prevail.

He thinks that the removal of the differences which arose during the rebellion in the United States, and which have existed since then, growing out of the acts committed by the several vessels, which have given rise to the claims generally known as the "Alabama Claims," will also be essential to the restoration of cordial and amicable relations between the two Governments. He fully recognises the friendly spirit which prompted the proposal. The President is, however, of the opinion that, without the adjustment of a class of questions not alluded to in your note, the proposed High Commission would fail to establish the permanent relations, and the sincere, substantial, and lasting friendship between the two Governments which, in common with Her Majesty's Government, he desires should prevail.

He thinks that the removal of the differences which arose during the rebellion in the United States, and which have existed since then, growing out of the acts committed by the several vessels, which have given rise to the claims generally known as the "Alabama Claims," will also be essential to the restoration of cordial and amicable relations between the two Governments. He fully recognises the friendly spirit which prompted the proposal. The President is, however, of the opinion that, without the adjustment of a class of questions not alluded to in your note, the proposed High Commission would fail to establish the permanent relations, and the sincere, substantial, and lasting friendship between the two Governments which, in common with Her Majesty's Government, he desires should prevail.

He thinks that the removal of the differences which arose during the rebellion in the United States, and which have existed since then, growing out of the acts committed by the several vessels, which have given rise to the claims generally known as the "Alabama Claims," will also be essential to the restoration of cordial and amicable relations between the two Governments. He fully recognises the friendly spirit which prompted the proposal. The President is, however, of the opinion that, without the adjustment of a class of questions not alluded to in your note, the proposed High Commission would fail to establish the permanent relations, and the sincere, substantial, and lasting friendship between the two Governments which, in common with Her Majesty's Government, he desires should prevail.

He thinks that the removal of the differences which arose during the rebellion in the United States, and which have existed since then, growing out of the acts committed by the several vessels, which have given rise to the claims generally known as the "Alabama Claims," will also be essential to the restoration of cordial and amicable relations between the two Governments. He fully recognises the friendly spirit which prompted the proposal. The President is, however, of the opinion that, without the adjustment of a class of questions not alluded to in your note, the proposed High Commission would fail to establish the permanent relations, and the sincere, substantial, and lasting friendship between the two Governments which, in common with Her Majesty's Government, he desires should prevail.

He thinks that the removal of the differences which arose during the rebellion in the United States, and which have existed since then, growing out of the acts committed by the several vessels, which have given rise to the claims generally known as the "Alabama Claims," will also be essential to the restoration of cordial and amicable relations between the two Governments. He fully recognises the friendly spirit which prompted the proposal. The President is, however, of the opinion that, without the adjustment of a class of questions not alluded to in your note, the proposed High Commission would fail to establish the permanent relations, and the sincere, substantial, and lasting friendship between the two Governments which, in common with Her Majesty's Government, he desires should prevail.

He thinks that the removal of the differences which arose during the rebellion in the United States, and which have existed since then, growing out of the acts committed by the several vessels, which have given rise to the claims generally known as the "Alabama Claims," will also be essential to the restoration of cordial and amicable relations between the two Governments. He fully recognises the friendly spirit which prompted the proposal. The President is, however, of the opinion that, without the adjustment of a class of questions not alluded to in your note, the proposed High Commission would fail to establish the permanent relations, and the sincere, substantial, and lasting friendship between the two Governments which, in common with Her Majesty's Government, he desires should prevail.

He thinks that the removal of the differences which arose during the rebellion in the United States, and which have existed since then, growing out of the acts committed by the several vessels, which have given rise to the claims generally known as the "Alabama Claims," will also be essential to the restoration of cordial and amicable relations between the two Governments. He fully recognises the friendly spirit which prompted the proposal. The President is, however, of the opinion that, without the adjustment of a class of questions not alluded to in your note, the proposed High Commission would fail to establish the permanent relations, and the sincere, substantial, and lasting friendship between the two Governments which, in common with Her Majesty's Government, he desires should prevail.

He thinks that the removal of the differences which arose during the rebellion in the United States, and which have existed since then, growing out of the acts committed by the several vessels, which have given rise to the claims generally known as the "Alabama Claims," will also be essential to the restoration of cordial and amicable relations between the two Governments. He fully recognises the friendly spirit which prompted the proposal. The President is, however, of the opinion that, without the adjustment of a class of questions not alluded to in your note, the proposed High Commission would fail to establish the permanent relations, and the sincere, substantial, and lasting friendship between the two Governments which, in common with Her Majesty's Government, he desires should prevail.

He thinks that the removal of the differences which arose during the rebellion in the United States, and which have existed since then, growing out of the acts committed by the several vessels, which have given rise to the claims generally known as the "Alabama Claims," will also be essential to the restoration of cordial and amicable relations between the two Governments. He fully recognises the friendly spirit which prompted the proposal. The President is, however, of the opinion that, without the adjustment of a class of questions not alluded to in your note, the proposed High Commission would fail to establish the permanent relations, and the sincere, substantial, and lasting friendship between the two Governments which, in common with Her Majesty's Government, he desires should prevail.

He thinks that the removal of the differences which arose during the rebellion in the United States, and which have existed since then, growing out of the acts committed by the several vessels, which have given rise to the claims generally known as the "Alabama Claims," will also be essential to the restoration of cordial and amicable relations between the two Governments. He fully recognises the friendly spirit which prompted the proposal. The President is, however, of the opinion that, without the adjustment of a class of questions not alluded to in your note, the proposed High Commission would fail to establish the permanent relations, and the sincere, substantial, and lasting friendship between the two Governments which, in common with Her Majesty's Government, he desires should prevail.

He thinks that the removal of the differences which arose during the rebellion in the United States, and which have existed since then, growing out of the acts committed by the several vessels, which have given rise to the claims generally known as the "Alabama Claims," will also be essential to the restoration of cordial and amicable relations between the two Governments. He fully recognises the friendly spirit which prompted the proposal. The President is, however, of the opinion that, without the adjustment of a class of questions not alluded to in your note, the proposed High Commission would fail to establish the permanent relations, and the sincere, substantial, and lasting friendship between the two Governments which, in common with Her Majesty's Government, he desires should prevail.

He thinks that the removal of the differences which arose during the rebellion in the United States, and which have existed since then, growing out of the acts committed by the several vessels, which have given rise to the claims generally known as the "Alabama Claims," will also be essential to the restoration of cordial and amicable relations between the two Governments. He fully recognises the friendly spirit which prompted the proposal. The President is, however, of the opinion that, without the adjustment of a class of questions not alluded to in your note, the proposed High Commission would fail to establish the permanent relations, and the sincere, substantial, and lasting friendship between the two Governments which, in common with Her Majesty's Government, he desires should prevail.

He thinks that the removal of the differences which arose during the rebellion in the United States, and which have existed since then, growing out of the acts committed by the several vessels, which have given rise to the claims generally known as the "Alabama Claims," will also be essential to the restoration of cordial and amicable relations between the two Governments. He fully recognises the friendly spirit which prompted the proposal. The President is, however, of the opinion that, without the adjustment of a class of questions not alluded to in your note, the proposed High Commission would fail to establish the permanent relations, and the sincere, substantial, and lasting friendship between the two Governments which, in common with Her Majesty's Government, he desires should prevail.

He thinks that the removal of the differences which arose during the rebellion in the United States, and which have existed since then, growing out of the acts committed by the several vessels, which have given rise to the claims generally known as the "Alabama Claims," will also be essential to the restoration of cordial and amicable relations between the two Governments. He fully recognises the friendly spirit which prompted the proposal. The President is, however, of the opinion that, without the adjustment of a class of questions not alluded to in your note, the proposed High Commission would fail to establish the permanent relations, and the sincere, substantial, and lasting friendship between the two Governments which, in common with Her Majesty's Government, he desires should prevail.